Atty. Dkt. No. 046262-0143

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Motohiro IKAWA

Title: VOLUME CONTROL METHOD, VOLUME

CONTROLLER, VOLUME CONTROL PROGRAM, ELECTRONIC APPARATUS

Appl. No.: Unassigned

Filing Date: 9/18/2006

International PCT/JP2005/003973

Appl. No.:

International

3/8/2005

Filing Date:

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

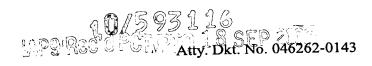
Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be



appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR §1.491.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Documents A1 through A6 listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 were cited in the International Search Report in Applicant's International Application PCT/JP2005/003973. A copy of the International Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of each reference considered relevant by the examiner.

Documents A1 and A3 belong to the same "patent family," whereby the English language document may assist the PTO in understanding the content of the non-English language document.

Documents A2 and A6 belong to the same "patent family," whereby the English language document may assist the PTO in understanding the content of the non-English language document.

The relevance of the non-English language document A7 is described in the present specification. Unless otherwise indicated, no English translation is readily available (not considering machine-generated translations that may be freely available online, to both the Applicant and the PTO) for each of the non-English language documents. However, a commercially available English language abstract is provided herewith, where indicated on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. Inasmuch as Applicant has endeavored to provide at least one item that complies with the requirement for a "concise explanation of relevance" for each of the non-English language documents, each of these documents has been submitted in compliance with the PTO requirements and should be considered by the Examiner (37 CFR §1.97, §1.98 and MPEP §609). Any document listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 was cited as

-2-



being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding International application. A copy of the International Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner. An English-language counterpart of the foreignlanguage documents has been provided where readily available. The absence of a translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider any submitted document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP§609).

Applicant respectfully requests that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Although Applicant believes that no fee is required for this Request, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Request to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 18, 2006

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Glenn Law

Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 34,371

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: September 18, 2006

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	Complete if Known
Application Number	Unassigned
Filing Date	09/18/2006
Filing Date First Named Inventor	Motohiro IKAWA
First Nameu Inventor	Unassigned
Group Art Unit	Unassigned
Examiner Name	046262-0143
Attorney Docket Number	040202-01-10

				U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS		Pages, Columns, Lines,
		U.S. Patent Do	ocument	Name of Patentee or Applicant of	Date of Publication of Cited Document	Where Relevant Passages or Relevant
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Cited Document	MM-DD-YYYY 03-14-2002	Figures Appear
7GM/ /GM/	A1 A2	2002/0031236 2001/0026624		SHIMIZU ET AL. KON ET AL.	10-04-2001	

			UNPUBLISH	IED U.S. PATENT APPLICATION	DOCUMENTS	Pages, Columns, Lines,
Examiner Initials*	U.S. Patent Application Document Kind			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Filing Date of Where Of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document Passages	

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Fore	eign Patent Documer Number ⁴ Kind C	Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
/GM/	A3	JP	2002-101485	A	SONY CORP	04-05-2002 01-15-2004		ABS
/GM/ /GM/	A4 A5	JP JP	2004-13084 2003-318673	A	SHARP CORP MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC	11-07-2003		ABS
/GM/	A6	JP	2001-285983 11-68484	A	SANYO ELECTRIC CO AIWA CO LTD	10-12-2001 03-09-1999		ABS

		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Τ'
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible is a document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible is a document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible is a document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible is a document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible is a document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible is a document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possibl

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